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## HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE REPORT

Chair of Committee Date
Chan of Committee Date
Committee on Education.
After consideration on the merits, the Committee recommends the following:
HB22-1220 be amended as follows, and as so amended, be re-referred to the Committee on Appropriations with favorable recommendation:
Strike the Education Committee Report, dated March 2, 2022, and substitute:
"Amend printed bill, page 4, line 4, strike "and".
Page 4, line 14, strike "efficient." and substitute "efficient; and".
Page 4, after line 14 insert:  "(l) While the COVID-19 pandemic has severely impacted the number of educators entering the educator workforce, the temporary educator loan forgiveness program allows educators whose loans are forgiven the flexibility and peace of mind to enter the educator workforce.".
Page 4, line 15, after "(2)" insert "(a)".
Page 4, after line 23 insert:  "(b) The COVID-19 pandemic negatively impacted the educator workforce, causing a severe shortage of educators and a number of vacant educator positions. The expenditures for the educator programs and services to support educators entering the workforce are considered allowable uses under the "American Rescue Plan Act of 2021", Pub.L. 117-2, and are necessary to respond to the negative impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency.  (c) The general assembly further declares that the funding for

educator programs and services to support educators entering the

workforce described in this act are important government services.".

Page 9, after line 9 insert:

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- "(4) (a) FOR THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE DEPARTMENT THIRTY-NINE MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RELIEF CASH FUND CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-75-228 TO FUND STIPENDS FOR ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.
- (b) The department or the stipend recipients shall spend or obligate any money received pursuant to this subsection (4) by December 31, 2024. Any money obligated by December 31, 2024 must be expended by December 31, 2026.
- (c) The department and any person who receives money from the department, including each stipend recipient, shall comply with the compliance, reporting, record-keeping, and program evaluation requirements established by the office of state planning and budgeting and the state controller in accordance with section 24-75-226 (5).
- 17 (d) This subsection (4) is repealed, effective January 31, 18 2027.".
- 19 Page 12, after line 2 insert:
  - "(4) (a) FOR THE 2022-23 STATE FISCAL YEAR, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TO THE DEPARTMENT THREE MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RELIEF CASH FUND CREATED PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-75-228 TO FUND STIPENDS FOR ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.
  - (b) The department or the stipend recipient shall spend or obligate any stipend money received pursuant to this subsection (4) by December 31, 2024. Any money obligated by December 31, 2024 must be expended by December 31, 2026.
  - (c) THE DEPARTMENT AND ANY PERSON WHO RECEIVES MONEY FROM THE DEPARTMENT, INCLUDING EACH STIPEND RECIPIENT, SHALL COMPLY WITH THE COMPLIANCE, REPORTING, RECORD-KEEPING, AND PROGRAM EVALUATION REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING AND BUDGETING AND THE STATE CONTROLLER IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 24-75-226 (5).
- 35 (d) This subsection (4) is repealed, effective January 31, 36 2027.".
- Page 14, after line 4 insert:
- 38 "SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add part 4 to article 39 3.9 of title 23 as follows:

40 PART 4

## TEMPORARY EDUCATOR LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

**23-3.9-401. Definitions.** As used in this part 4, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (1) "APPROVED PROGRAM OF PREPARATION" MEANS A PROGRAM OF STUDY FOR PREPARATION THAT IS APPROVED BY THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-1-121, INCLUDING A PREPARATION PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS OR AN ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PROGRAM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-60.5-102 (5), AND THAT UPON COMPLETION LEADS TO A RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSURE BY AN ACCEPTED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-60.5-102 (1).
- (2) "AT-RISK PUPILS" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 22-54-103 (1.5)(a)(VI).
- (3) "COMMISSION" MEANS THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION.
  - (4) "EDUCATOR" MEANS A TEACHER OR SCHOOL COUNSELOR.
- (5) "FACILITY SCHOOL" MEANS AN APPROVED FACILITY SCHOOL, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22-2-402 (1).
- (6) "QUALIFIED LOAN" MEANS AN EDUCATIONAL LOAN INCURRED WHILE COMPLETING A PROGRAM OF PREPARATION, INCLUDING AN ALTERNATIVE TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 60.5 OF TITLE 22, THAT LEADS TO EDUCATOR LICENSURE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 60.5 OF TITLE 22, OR A BACHELOR'S OR MASTER'S DEGREE IN THE AREA IN WHICH THE EDUCATOR IS EMPLOYED IN A QUALIFIED POSITION.
  - (7) "QUALIFIED POSITION" MEANS:
- (a) A HARD-TO-STAFF EDUCATOR POSITION IN A RURAL SCHOOL OR RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR IN A FACILITY SCHOOL THAT IS IN A RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-3.9-102 (6); OR
- (b) A HARD-TO-STAFF EDUCATOR POSITION IN A CONTENT SHORTAGE AREA IDENTIFIED PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-3.9-102 (6) IN A COLORADO PUBLIC SCHOOL, A SCHOOL OPERATED BY A BOARD OF COOPERATIVE SERVICES CREATED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 5 OF TITLE 22, OR A FACILITY SCHOOL.
- (8) "RURAL SCHOOL" OR "RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT" MEANS A PUBLIC SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-3.9-102 (6).
- 40 (9) "SCHOOL" OR "PUBLIC SCHOOL" MEANS A PUBLIC SCHOOL THAT
  41 SERVES ANY OF GRADES KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TWELVE AND THAT
  42 DERIVES ITS SUPPORT, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, FROM MONEY RAISED BY A

GENERAL STATE OR SCHOOL DISTRICT TAX. A PUBLIC SCHOOL INCLUDES A CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22, BY THE STATE CHARTER SCHOOL INSTITUTE PURSUANT TO PART 5 OF ARTICLE 30.5 OF TITLE 22, OR BY THE COLORADO SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-80-102 (4).

- 23-3.9-402. Temporary educator loan forgiveness program administration eligibility. (1) (a) The General assembly authorizes the commission to develop and maintain a temporary educator loan forgiveness program for implementation in the 2022-23 state fiscal year for payment of all or part of the principal and interest of the qualified loans of an educator who is hired for a qualified position. The commission shall determine whether a loan is a qualified loan for purposes of the temporary educator loan forgiveness program. The commission shall develop loan repayment policies that ensure the money is used for the repayment of qualified loans of educators employed in qualified positions.
- (b) The general assembly shall appropriate to the commission ten million dollars from the economic recovery and relief cash fund created pursuant to section 24-75-228 to fund the temporary educator loan forgiveness program. The commission or a loan forgiveness recipient shall spend or obligate any money received pursuant to this section by December 31, 2024. Any money obligated by December 31, 2024, must be expended by December 31, 2026.
- (c) NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2022, THE COMMISSION SHALL APPROVE APPLICATIONS. IF MORE NEW PARTICIPANTS APPLY THAN CAN BE APPROVED BASED ON THE MONEY AVAILABLE, THE COMMISSION SHALL:
- (I) FIRST, APPROVE APPLICANTS WHO HAVE CONTRACTED FOR A QUALIFIED POSITION IN A RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OR RURAL SCHOOL WHOSE PERCENTAGE OF AT-RISK PUPILS EXCEEDED SIXTY PERCENT IN THE 2021-22 BUDGET YEAR;
- (II) SECOND, APPROVE APPLICANTS WHO HAVE CONTRACTED FOR A QUALIFIED POSITION IN A CONTENT SHORTAGE AREA WITH A SCHOOL WHOSE PERCENTAGE OF AT-RISK PUPILS EXCEEDED SIXTY PERCENT IN THE 2021-22 BUDGET YEAR:
- (III) THIRD, APPROVE APPLICANTS WHO HAVE CONTRACTED FOR A QUALIFIED POSITION IN A RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT OR RURAL SCHOOL; AND
- (IV) FOURTH, APPROVE APPLICANTS WHO HAVE CONTRACTED WITH A SCHOOL FOR A QUALIFIED POSITION IN A CONTENT SHORTAGE AREA.
- (2) In addition to any qualifications the commission specifies, to qualify for the temporary educator loan

FORGIVENESS PROGRAM, AN EDUCATOR MUST:

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- (a) GRADUATE FROM A PROGRAM OF PREPARATION THAT LEADS TO EDUCATOR LICENSURE PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 60.5 OF TITLE 22;
- (b) MEET LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-201 (1)(a) OR (1)(b) OR 22-60.5-210 (1)(a);
- (c) Enter the educator workforce on or after the 2019-20 state fiscal year and contract for a qualified position no later than the end of the 2021-22 state fiscal year; and
- 9 (d) BE LIABLE FOR AN OUTSTANDING BALANCE ON A QUALIFIED 10 LOAN.
- 11 (3) AN EDUCATOR WHO HAS RECEIVED MONEY FROM THE
  12 EDUCATOR LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION
  13 23-3.9-102, STUDENT EDUCATOR STIPEND PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION
  14 23-3.9-302, OR EDUCATOR TEST STIPEND PROGRAM CREATED IN SECTION
  15 23-3.9-303 IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR LOAN FORGIVENESS MONEY PURSUANT TO
  16 THIS PART 4.
  - (4) AN EDUCATOR WHO QUALIFIES PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) OF THIS SECTION IS ELIGIBLE FOR UP TO FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS IN LOAN FORGIVENESS.
- 23-3.9-403. Reporting. The commission, and any person who receives money from the commission, including each loan forgiveness recipient, shall comply with the compliance, reporting, record-keeping, and program evaluation requirements established by the office of state planning and budgeting and the state controller in accordance with section 24-75-226 (5).
- 27 **23-3.9-404. Repeal of part.** This part 4 is repealed, effective January 31, 2027.".
- 29 Renumber succeeding sections accordingly.
- Page 14, line 6, strike "portion and (5)(a)(I);" and substitute "portion,
- 31 (5)(a)(I), and (7);".
- 32 Page 14, after line 25 insert:
- 33 "(7) **Interim authorization.** (a) An interim authorization authorizes a school district to employ a person who is:
- 35 (I) Certified or licensed, or is eligible for certification or licensure, as a teacher, principal, or administrator in another state and who has not successfully completed the assessment of professional competencies to obtain an initial license under section 22-60.5-201 (1)(b),
- 39 22-60.5-301 (1)(a), or 22-60.5-306 (1)(a) but who meets the other
- 40 requirements for an initial license specified in said sections; OR

- (II) SEEKING AN ALTERNATIVE TEACHER LICENSE PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-201 (1)(a) AND MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS FOR AN ALTERNATIVE TEACHER LICENSE, EXCEPT THAT THE PERSON HAS NOT SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE ASSESSMENT OF PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES TO OBTAIN AN ALTERNATIVE TEACHER LICENSE.
- (b) An interim authorization is valid for one year, and the department of education may renew the authorization for one additional year. The employing school district may include the period during which a person works under an interim authorization toward the three full years of continuous employment necessary to cease being a probationary teacher pursuant to section 22-63-103 (7).
- (b) (c) A school district that employs a person who holds an interim authorization may provide an induction program for the person, as described in section 22-60.5-204, 22-60.5-304, or 22-60.5-309, whichever is applicable. If the person successfully completes the induction program while employed under the interim authorization, the person may apply completion of the induction program toward meeting the requirements for a professional educator license."
- 19 Page 15, line 9, after "APPROVED" insert "CONTENT-BASED OR".
- Page 15, line 15, strike "STANDARDS; OR" and substitute "STANDARDS FOR
- 21 EXAMINATION BY A REVIEW PANEL;".

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- Page 15, line 19, strike "EDUCATION AND" and substitute "EDUCATION,".
- 23 Page 15, line 20, after "SECTION 23-3.9-301 (8)," insert "THE STATE
- 24 BOARD FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION
- 25 CREATED IN SECTION 23-60-104, AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS,".
- 26 Page 15, after line 26 insert:
- 27 "(c) THE DEPARTMENT MAY RECOMMEND TO THE STATE BOARD OF
- 28 EDUCATION EXISTING PROGRAMS, RESOURCES, AND MATERIALS THAT ARE
- 29 AVAILABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
- 30 MULTIPLE MEASURES OF PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES SET FORTH IN
- 31 SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION.".
- 32 Reletter succeeding paragraph accordingly.
- Page 16, after line 3 insert:
- "(e) BEGINNING IN JANUARY 2025, AND IN JANUARY EVERY YEAR
- 35 THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL INCLUDE AS PART OF ITS "STATE
- 36 MEASUREMENT FOR ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT

- (SMART) GOVERNMENT ACT" HEARING REQUIRED BY SECTION 2-7-203 INFORMATION CONCERNING:
- 3 (I) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PANELISTS HIRED TO SIT ON A REVIEW 4 PANEL TO EXAMINE PORTFOLIOS OF COURSE WORK;
  - (II) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HOURS THE REVIEW PANEL REVIEWS EDUCATOR PORTFOLIOS;
- 7 (III) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EDUCATOR CANDIDATES WHO SUBMIT 8 A PORTFOLIO OF COURSE WORK FOR EXAMINATION BY THE REVIEW PANEL;
- 9 (IV) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EDUCATOR CANDIDATES WHO SUBMIT 10 EVIDENCE OF ACHIEVING SUFFICIENTLY HIGH EDUCATION COURSE WORK 11 GRADES ON COURSE WORK ALIGNED WITH RELEVANT STANDARDS;
- 12 (V) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EDUCATOR CANDIDATES WHO 13 COMPLETE AN APPROVED CONTENT-BASED ASSESSMENT;
- 14 (VI) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EDUCATOR CANDIDATES WHO COMPLETE AN APPROVED PERFORMANCE-BASED ASSESSMENT; AND
- 16 (VII) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EDUCATOR CANDIDATES WHO
  17 DEMONSTRATE PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES BY A COMBINATION OF THE
  18 METHODS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(a) OF THIS SECTION.
- 19 (f) The provisions of this subsection (3) do not affect the 20 Teacher training requirements specified in Section 22-7-1208 (6).".
- 21 Page 19, strike lines 21 through 27 and substitute:
- "SECTION 9. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds,
- determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
- 24 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety.".
- 25 Page 20, strike lines 1 and 2.
- 26 Strike "2023" and substitute "2022" on: Page 7, lines 20 and 24; and
- 27 **Page 11**, lines 1 and 6.

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- 28 Strike "OR" on: **Page 17**, lines 4, 13, and 21; **Page 18**, lines 10 and 22;
- 29 and **Page 19**, lines 7 and 15.
- 30 After "SECTION 22-60.5-111 (5)," insert "OR AN INTERIM AUTHORIZATION
- 31 PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-111 (7)," on: Page 17, lines 5 and 22;
- 32 **Page 18,** line 23; and **Page 19,** lines 8 and 16.
- 33 Strike "SECTION 22-60.5-111 (5)." and substitute "SECTION 22-60.5-111
- 34 (5), OR AN INTERIM AUTHORIZATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-60.5-111
- 35 (7)." on: **Page 17**, line 14; and **Page 18**, line 11.".

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